

# 2019-2020 Youth Commission Report



# Immigrant Youth Committee

Javier Nino-Sears

Atiya Shah

Laura Weppner

Carrie Ho

Luis Galindo

Ryan Teh

# Immigrant Youth Scholarship

- Continued a scholarship for outstanding immigrant youth who lack financial resources for college
  - Reached out to every high school in San Mateo County
- Constructed application + essay questions to help guide our selection process
- Received 18 applications - more than expected with COVID-19
- Awarded \$1000 dollars to 5 deserving recipients



**SAN MATEO IMMIGRANT YOUTH COMMITTEE**

## **IMMIGRANT YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP**

**Who can apply?**

- \* Youth in 12th grade-25 years old**
- \* must be a resident of San Mateo County**

**Recipients will receive a \$1000 scholarship**

**APPLY BY FRIDAY MAY 1, 2020**

<http://bit.ly/2TYyrJC>

Javier Niño-Sears  
Chair of Immigrant Youth Committee  
Email: javiernosears@gmail.com

Lindsey Freeland  
Government Liaison San Mateo County Youth Commission  
Email: lfreeland@smcgov.org



# Recipients

Brian Perez Wences- East Palo Alto Academy

Mistica Espinoza- Aragon High School

Jeddy Jacinto Molina- Menlo Atherton High School

Maria Alegria Paningbatan- Westmoor High School

Nancy Saavedra- Half Moon Bay High School



# Indigenous Peoples' Day

- Last term, the Immigrant Youth Committee worked on investigating and passing the Indigenous Peoples' Day Resolution (IPD)
  - We looked into a variety of different options regarding the placement of IPD on the county calendar
  - We contacted and heard from both the Italian-American and Indigenous Peoples' communities
  - We met with Supervisor Groom
- At the end of last year, we passed the resolution within the Youth Commission
- The resolution was scheduled to be voted on by the Board of Supervisors during a meeting in January, but they decided to go forward with IPD without a vote!

# Civic Engagement Committee

Sathvik Nori

Jade Costello

Joey Scatena

Sophie Mateja

Dilara Sumbul

Sydney Mufarreh

Allyson Chan

# Advisory Letter to the Board of Supervisors

- Wrote letter advocating for new approaches to Juvenile Justice
- Urged them to highly consider adopting more rehabilitative practices for incarcerated youth

# RISE 2020

- Helped organize a youth track for the program
  - Similar to Women's Mentorship Night
  - Contacted mentors and publicized for event
  - Worked alongside Tanya Beat and CSW
- Unfortunately, event cancelled due to COVID-19





# Census Engagement

- Original goal was to help promote the census through events
- Unfortunately, not able to because of COVID-19 limitations
  - Continued to promote and spread census information through social media



# Health & Wellness Committee

Stella Kaval

Asante Spencer

Evan Hua

Vineela Vandanapu

Josh Tseng

Sarah Pistorino

# Accomplishments

- Youth Mental Health Resources and Accessibility
- Children's Collaborative for Community Success
- COVID-19 Feminine Hygiene Access
- Support of the Commission on Disabilities to urge the Board to support H.R. 1878n Full Funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

# Environmental Justice Committee

Lilian Chang  
Eeshan Bhat  
Vikram Seshadri  
Austin Willis  
Aeneas Bufiy  
Shay Munoz

# Climate Emergency Declaration

## San Mateo County Youth Commission DECLARATION OF CLIMATE EMERGENCY

*A resolution of the San Mateo County Youth Commission expressing the urgency of climate change, and calling upon School District Boards to consider passing Climate Action Plans in all 23 districts in San Mateo County in a timely manner.*

WHEREAS, time is of the essence; the actions we do or do not take now and in the next few years will determine the intensity of climate change and its consequences for generations to come; and,

WHEREAS, San Mateo County, sits in an ecologically sensitive area between the Santa Cruz Mountain Range and the San Francisco Bay estuarine shoreline, and every school district in the county will be impacted as the effects of climate change (floods, drought, biodiversity loss, high heat day frequency) escalate; and,

WHEREAS, climate change is inherently threatening the health and well-being of all San Mateo County youth through climate disruptions; and,

WHEREAS, the State of California has enacted policies and provided guidance for reducing the state's ecological footprint through green facilities and operations, prioritizing environmental education in curriculum and instruction, and advocating for children and youth to spend time playing and learning outdoors; and,

WHEREAS, the [San Mateo County Board of Supervisors](#) has invited all cities and other local jurisdictions and agencies to also approve a Climate Emergency Declaration; and,

WHEREAS, the San Mateo County Youth Commission has a responsibility for representing youth voice on issues that affect youth including the current and future impacts of climate change and demonstrating leadership; and,

### NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

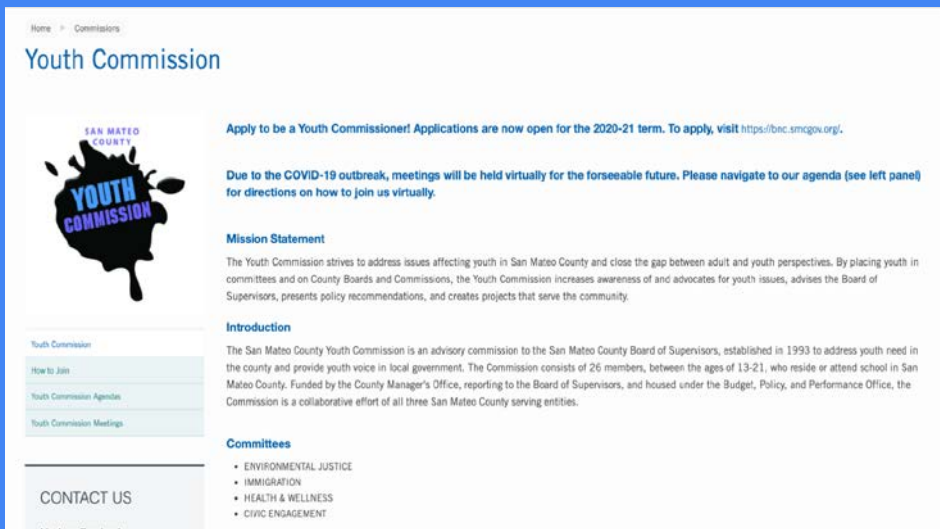
1. We, the San Mateo County Youth Commission, declare a climate emergency requiring immediate and effective action from all 23 school districts in San Mateo County; and,
2. We call on the Board of Education Trustees of all 23 school district boards in San Mateo County to consider passing a climate resolution that declares a climate emergency and outlines a climate action plan that addresses the following areas:
  - I. Buildings and Grounds
  - II. Operations and Transportation

- III. Food Service
- IV. Direct Greenhouse Gas Measurements and Goals for Net-Zero
- V. Climate Literacy and Climate Advocacy in the curriculum and graduation requirements
- VI. Institutional Advocacy for Climate Action Partnerships with local, regional, state, and national agencies and organizations to advance our response to climate change

### NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT


1. We encourage other student commissions, school boards, county boards of education, state boards of education, the California School Board Association, and the National School Board Association to all pass climate emergency declaration and resolution similar to ours, that protect current and future students; and,
2. We direct our Youth Commission secretary to transmit official copies of this resolution to all 23 school district boards of education, the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) Environmental Literacy and Sustainability Initiative, all California members of Congress, the Climate Solutions Caucus, the state Superintendent, the California School Board Association (CSBA), and the National School Board Association (NSBA).

# Declaration of Climate Emergency Announcement



Home > Commissions

## Youth Commission



**Apply to be a Youth Commissioner! Applications are now open for the 2020-21 term. To apply, visit <https://bec.smcgov.org/>.**

**Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, meetings will be held virtually for the foreseeable future. Please navigate to our agenda (see left panel) for directions on how to join us virtually.**

### Mission Statement

The Youth Commission strives to address issues affecting youth in San Mateo County and close the gap between adult and youth perspectives. By placing youth in committees and on County Boards and Commissions, the Youth Commission increases awareness of and advocates for youth issues, advises the Board of Supervisors, presents policy recommendations, and creates projects that serve the community.

### Introduction

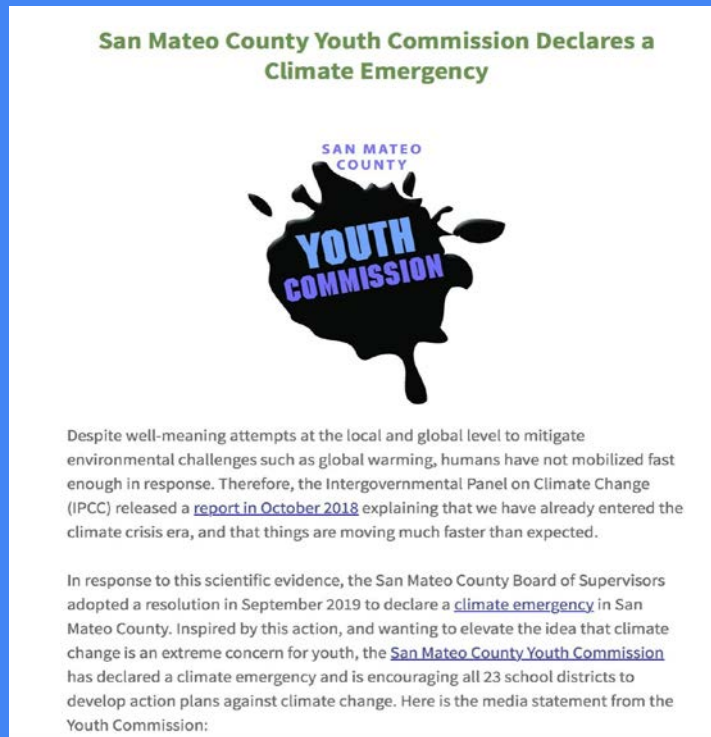
The San Mateo County Youth Commission is an advisory commission to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, established in 1993 to address youth need in the county and provide youth voice in local government. The Commission consists of 26 members, between the ages of 13-21, who reside or attend school in San Mateo County. Funded by the County Manager's Office, reporting to the Board of Supervisors, and housed under the Budget, Policy, and Performance Office, the Commission is a collaborative effort of all three San Mateo County serving entities.

### Committees


- ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
- IMMIGRATION
- HEALTH & WELLNESS
- CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

CONTACT US

Official Youth Commission Website



## San Mateo County Youth Commission Declares a Climate Emergency



Despite well-meaning attempts at the local and global level to mitigate environmental challenges such as global warming, humans have not mobilized fast enough in response. Therefore, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a [report in October 2018](#) explaining that we have already entered the climate crisis era, and that things are moving much faster than expected.

In response to this scientific evidence, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution in September 2019 to declare a [climate emergency](#) in San Mateo County. Inspired by this action, and wanting to elevate the idea that climate change is an extreme concern for youth, the [San Mateo County Youth Commission](#) has declared a climate emergency and is encouraging all 23 school districts to develop action plans against climate change. Here is the media statement from the Youth Commission:

EYLN Newsletter

# EYLN Winter Summit

- Hosted by the SMCOE, 7th-12th grade students from 16 schools across the county attended
- Publicized our climate emergency declaration to inspire action for other students in their communities



# Youth Commissioner Liaisons



Stella Kaval- Commission  
on Disabilities

Sathvik Nori- Juvenile  
Justice and Delinquency  
Prevention Commission

Aeneas Bufiy-  
Commission on the  
Status of Women



COMMISSION ON THE  
STATUS OF  
**WOMEN**  
SAN MATEO COUNTY



**COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES**

Thank You!